

The Colwell Detention Center in Blairsville, Ga. has reached out requesting that A.A. meetings be carried into the facility. Knowing our responsibility, it is important that the hand of A.A. reach back. The Colwell Detention Center houses detainees from all over the area and state. This offers an opportunity for all men and women of our area to give back in the spirit of service.

The volunteer application process is done by the Georgia Department of Corrections and requires some time, effort and a loss of anonymity with respect to the Department of Corrections. Substantial personal and background information is collected. There is a video presentation to watch with quizzes to complete citing the information in the video. Finally, upon acceptance after several weeks, there is a volunteer workshop to attend in Forsyth, Ga. Understandably, this is a pretty large investment that each will need to decide if they are willing to pay.

Meetings began on 9/21/2023 and continue on Thursdays at 6:30 pm. The format is an Open Discussion meeting. Many of us that regularly carry the message to this meeting say "It is the best meeting in town!"

If you would like to begin the volunteer process, please visit the following Georgia Department of Corrections website:

[Apply to be a Volunteer](#)

The initial checklist of understandings/terms for volunteering requires that you email Assistant Superintendent DeFillippes ([jennifer.defillippes@gdc.ga.gov](mailto:jennifer.defillippes@gdc.ga.gov)) and obtain approval to serve at the Colwell Probation Detention Center among other requirements.

At this time, the Colwell Probation Detention Center is not available on the pull down menu as an option for the facility in which you will be volunteering. As such, applicants will choose Arrendale State Prison and then let Assistant Superintendent DeFillippes know that this process has been completed in order for her to send an email informing the state office to assign you to the Colwell Probation Detention Center instead of Arrendale.

Additionally, there will be a contact person that you will need to indicate for the program you are volunteering for. Again this person is Assistant Superintendent DeFillippes. The address and phone number for the facility are:

Colwell Probation Detention Center  
189 Beasley Street  
Blairsville, GA 30512  
(706) 745-3610

Thank you for your consideration,  
Mark Donahue  
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Blairsville Group of A.A.